Amendments to the Claims:

Though this response does not contain any amendments to the claims, a current listing of the claims is provided for the Examiner's convenience.

1-37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously presented) A radio frequency data communication system comprising:

one or more base stations each having a radio frequency transceiver and each base station transmitting a pending message list at each of selected time intervals; and

a plurality of roaming terminals each having a radio frequency transceiver, the roaming terminals being selectively communicative with one or more base stations and each of the roaming terminals selectively deactivating the terminal's radio frequency transceiver through a plurality of the selected time intervals and synchronizing the activation of the terminal's radio frequency transceiver to receive the pending message list following the plurality of the selected time intervals.

39. (Previously presented) A radio frequency data communication system as recited in claim 38 wherein the one or more base stations transmits timing information regarding the selected time intervals to the plurality of roaming terminals.

40. (Previously presented) A radio frequency data communication system as recited in claim 39 wherein the one or more base stations communicates the timing information during the selected time intervals.

41. (Previously presented) A radio frequency data communication system as recited in claim 38 wherein the one or more base stations transmits timing information regarding the selected time intervals along with each pending message list to the plurality of roaming terminals.

42. (Previously presented) A radio frequency data communication system comprising:

one or more base stations each having a radio frequency transceiver and each base station transmitting a pending message list at each of selected time intervals; and

a plurality of roaming terminals each having a radio frequency transceiver, the

roaming terminals being selectively communicative with one or more base stations and each of the roaming terminals selectively deactivating the terminal's radio frequency transceiver through at least one of the selected time intervals and synchronizing the activation of the terminal's radio frequency transceiver to receive the pending message list following at least one of the selected time intervals.

43. (Previously presented) A radio frequency data communication system as recited in claim 42 wherein the one or more base stations transmits timing information regarding the selected time intervals to the plurality of roaming terminals.

44. (Previously presented) A radio frequency data communication system as recited in claim 43 wherein the one or more base stations communicates the timing information during the selected time intervals.

45. (Previously presented) A radio frequency data communication system as recited in claim 42 wherein the one or more base stations transmits timing information regarding the selected time intervals along with each pending message list to the plurality of roaming terminals.

46. (Previously presented) For use in a radio frequency data communication system having one or more base stations each transmitting a pending message list at each of selected time intervals, a roaming terminal operable in a sleep mode comprising:

a radio frequency transceiver; and

a processor selectively deactivating the transceiver through a plurality of the selected time intervals to operate the transceiver in a sleep mode and synchronizing the activation of the transceiver to receive a pending message list following the sleep mode.

47. (Canceled)

48. (Previously presented) A data communication method for a communication system having one or more base stations that transmit via radio frequency a pending message list at each of selected time intervals and at least one roaming terminal having a radio frequency transceiver, the method comprising:

deactivating the roaming terminal's transceiver in a sleep mode through a plurality of the selected time intervals; and

synchronizing the activation of the roaming terminal's radio frequency transceiver to receive the pending message list following the sleep mode.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising transmitting timing information regarding the selected time intervals from a base station.

50-51. (Canceled)

52. (Previously presented) A method for operating a roaming terminal with a radio frequency transceiver in a data communication system, the method comprising:

deactivating the roaming terminal's transceiver in a sleep mode through a plurality of selected time intervals during which a pending message list is transmitted;

synchronizing the activation of the roaming terminal's radio frequency transceiver to receive a message following the sleep mode;

receiving a pending message list; and

determining from the pending message list whether a message for the roaming terminal is awaiting delivery.

53-55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 46, wherein the processor operates the transceiver to receive timing information regarding the selected time intervals from one or more base stations.

57. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 56, wherein the processor operates the transceiver to receive the timing information during the selected time intervals.

58. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 46, wherein the processor operates the transceiver to receive timing information regarding the selected time intervals along with each pending message list.

59. (Previously presented) For use in a radio frequency data communication system having at least one base station that transmits a pending message list at each of selected time intervals, a roaming terminal having a radio frequency transceiver and operable in a sleep mode, the roaming terminal comprising:

at least one processor that operates to selectively deactivate a radio frequency transceiver of the roaming terminal through a plurality of the selected time intervals to operate the transceiver in a sleep mode, and synchronize activation of the transceiver to receive a pending message list following the sleep mode.

60. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to control the radio frequency transceiver of the roaming terminal to receive timing information regarding the selected time intervals from one or more base stations.

61. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 60, wherein the at least one processor operates to control the radio frequency transceiver of the roaming terminal to receive the timing information during the selected time intervals.

62. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to control the radio frequency transceiver of the roaming terminal to receive timing information regarding the selected time intervals along with each pending message list.

63. (Previously presented) A roaming terminal for use in a data communication system, the roaming terminal having a radio frequency transceiver, the roaming terminal comprising:

at least one processor that operates to, at least:

deactivate the terminal's radio frequency transceiver in a sleep mode through a plurality of selected time intervals during which a pending message list is transmitted;

synchronize activation of the roaming terminal's radio frequency transceiver to receive a message following the sleep mode;

receive a pending message list; and

determine from the pending message list whether a message for the

roaming terminal is awaiting delivery.

64 (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to, at least, control the terminal's radio frequency transceiver to receive timing information regarding the selected time intervals from one or more base stations.

65. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 64, wherein the at least one processor operates to, at least, control the terminal's radio frequency transceiver to receive the timing information during the selected time intervals.

66. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to, at least, control the terminal's radio frequency transceiver to receive timing information regarding the selected time intervals along with each pending message list.

67. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the transceiver of the roaming terminal is a spread spectrum transceiver.

68. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the communication system comprises a plurality of base stations, each of which corresponds to a respective coverage area.

69. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to activate the transceiver to receive a pending message list for up to a maximum listening period, where the maximum listening period is at least a maximum expected time interval between consecutive pending message list transmissions.

70. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to determine whether to consider a received pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on signal strength.

71. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the roaming terminal comprises a hand-held terminal.

72. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the roaming terminal comprises circuitry that operates to perform batch file transfer.

73. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the roaming terminal comprises circuitry that operates to perform on-line data entry.

74. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission.

75. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on timing information received with a previous pending message list transmission.

76. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on seed information received in a previous transmission.

77. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause the transceiver to operate in a sleep mode by, at least in part, causing circuitry to power down the transceiver.

78. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on an expected duration of a communication between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

79. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information communicated between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

80. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one

processor operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information transmitted by another roaming terminal.

81. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the pending message list comprises information of messages stored for a plurality of sleeping terminals.

82. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal.

83. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the pending message list comprises information from which the at least one processor determines whether a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal.

84. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to analyze a received pending message list to determine whether a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal.

85. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein in response to a received pending message list indicating that a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal, the at least one processor operates to direct the transceiver to transmit a message requesting delivery of one or more pending messages to the roaming terminal.

86. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored at a node of the communication system and awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

87. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored in a base station of the communication system and awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

88. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to maintain operation of the roaming terminal in an awake state if a predetermined number of expected signals from the communication system are not received.

89. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to determine a number of the selected time intervals in which to operate the transceiver in a sleep mode.

90. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the pending message list comprises information of mail messages awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

91. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause circuitry of the roaming terminal to enter a sleep mode for at least a portion of an expected delay to receive a message in response to a message sent from the roaming terminal.

92. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to activate and deactivate particular circuitry of the roaming terminal in a consistent cycle.

93. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause circuitry of the roaming terminal to operate in an awake state for a first period of time if no message is received and for a second period of time, longer than the first period of time, if a message is received.

94. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause circuitry of the roaming terminal to operate in an awake state in response to a user input and to continue to operate in the awake state for a fixed time period following the user input.

95. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause circuitry of the roaming terminal to operate in an awake state for at least an entire duration of a communication session with the communication system.

96. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 59, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause circuitry of the roaming terminal to operate in an awake state for a fixed time period following completion of a communication session with the communication

system.

97. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the transceiver of the roaming terminal is a spread spectrum transceiver.

98. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the communication system comprises a plurality of base stations, each of which corresponds to a respective coverage area.

99. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to activate the transceiver to receive a pending message list for up to a maximum listening period, where the maximum listening period is at least a maximum expected time interval between consecutive pending message list transmissions.

100. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to determine whether to consider a received pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on signal strength.

101. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the roaming terminal comprises a hand-held terminal.

102. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the roaming terminal comprises circuitry that operates to perform batch file transfer.

103. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the roaming terminal comprises circuitry that operates to perform on-line data entry.

104. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission.

105. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on timing information received with a previous pending message list

transmission.

106. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on seed information received in a previous transmission.

107. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause the transceiver to operate in a sleep mode by, at least in part, causing circuitry to power down the transceiver.

108. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on an expected duration of a communication between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

109. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information communicated between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

110. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information transmitted by another roaming terminal.

111. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the pending message list comprises information of messages stored for a plurality of sleeping terminals.

112. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal.

113. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the pending message list comprises information from which the at least one processor determines whether a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal.

114. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to analyze a received pending message list to determine whether a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal.

115. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein in response to a received pending message list indicating that a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal, the at least one processor operates to direct the transceiver to transmit a message requesting delivery of one or more pending messages to the roaming terminal.

116. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored at a node of the communication system and awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

117. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored in a base station of the communication system and awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

118. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to maintain operation of the roaming terminal in an awake state if a predetermined number of expected signals from the communication system are not received.

119. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to determine a number of the selected time intervals in which to operate the transceiver in a sleep mode.

120. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the pending message list comprises information of mail messages awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

121. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause circuitry of the roaming terminal to enter a sleep mode for at least a portion of an expected delay to receive a message in response to a message sent from the roaming terminal.

122. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to activate and deactivate particular circuitry of the roaming terminal in a consistent cycle.

123. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause circuitry of the roaming terminal to operate in an awake state for a first period of time if no message is received and for a second period of time, longer than the first period of time, if a message is received.

124. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause circuitry of the roaming terminal to operate in an awake state in response to a user input and to continue to operate in the awake state for a fixed time period following the user input.

125. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause circuitry of the roaming terminal to operate in an awake state for at least an entire duration of a communication session with the communication system.

126. (Previously presented) The roaming terminal of claim 63, wherein the at least one processor operates to cause circuitry of the roaming terminal to operate in an awake state for a fixed time period following completion of a communication session with the communication system.

127. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the transceiver of the terminal is a spread spectrum transceiver.

128. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the communication system comprises a plurality of base stations, each of which corresponds to a respective coverage area.

129. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising activating the transceiver to receive a pending message list for up to a maximum listening period, where the maximum listening period is at least a maximum expected time interval between consecutive pending message list transmissions.

130. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising determining whether to consider a received pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on signal strength.

131. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the roaming terminal comprises a hand-held terminal.

132. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the roaming terminal comprises circuitry that operates to perform batch file transfer.

133. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the roaming terminal comprises circuitry that operates to perform on-line data entry.

134. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising calculating an expected time for a pending message list transmission.

135. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising calculating an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on timing information received with a previous pending message list transmission.

136. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising calculating an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on seed information received in a previous transmission.

137. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein deactivating the roaming terminal's transceiver in a sleep mode comprises powering down circuitry of the transceiver.

138. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising determining a sleep time period based, at least in part, on an expected duration of a communication between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

139. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising determining a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information communicated between

another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

140. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising determining a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information transmitted by another roaming terminal.

141. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the pending message list comprises information of messages stored for a plurality of sleeping terminals.

142. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal.

143. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the pending message list comprises information from which circuitry of the roaming terminal determines whether a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal.

144. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein determining from the pending message list whether a message for the roaming terminal is awaiting delivery comprises utilizing at least one processor operates to analyze the pending message list to determine whether a message for the roaming terminal is awaiting delivery.

145. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising in response to a received pending message list indicating that a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal, directing the transceiver to transmit a message requesting delivery of one or more pending messages to the roaming terminal.

146. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored at a node of the communication system and awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

147. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored in a base station of the communication system and awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

148. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising operating the roaming terminal in an awake state if a predetermined number of expected signals from the communication system are not received.

149. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising determining a number of the selected time intervals in which to deactivate the transceiver in a sleep mode.

150. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the pending message list comprises information of mail messages awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

151. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising causing circuitry of the roaming terminal to enter a sleep mode for at least a portion of an expected delay to receive a message in response to a message sent from the roaming terminal.

152. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising activating and deactivating particular circuitry of the roaming terminal in a consistent cycle.

153. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising operating circuitry of the roaming terminal in an awake state for a first period of time if no message is received and for a second period of time, longer than the first period of time, if a message is received.

154. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising operating circuitry of the roaming terminal in an awake state in response to a user input and continuing operating circuitry of the roaming terminal in the awake state for a fixed time period following the user input.

155. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising operating circuitry of the roaming terminal in an awake state for at least an entire duration of a communication session with the communication system.

156. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising operating circuitry of the roaming terminal in an awake state for a fixed time period following completion of a communication session with the communication system.

157. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the transceiver of the roaming terminal is a spread spectrum transceiver.

158. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the communication system comprises a plurality of base stations, each of which corresponds to a respective coverage area.

159. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising activating the transceiver to receive a pending message list for up to a maximum listening period, where the maximum listening period is at least a maximum expected time interval between consecutive pending message list transmissions.

160. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising determining whether to consider a received pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on signal strength.

161. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the roaming terminal comprises a hand-held terminal.

162. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising performing batch file transfer between the roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

163. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising performing on-line data entry with the roaming terminal.

164. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising calculating an expected time for a pending message list transmission.

165. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising calculating an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on timing information received with a previous pending message list transmission.

166. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising calculating an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on seed information

received in a previous transmission.

167. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein deactivating the roaming terminal's transceiver comprises powering down circuitry of the transceiver.

168. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising determining a sleep time period based, at least in part, on an expected duration of a communication between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

169. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising determining a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information communicated between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

170. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising determining a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information transmitted by another roaming terminal.

171. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the pending message list comprises information of messages stored for a plurality of sleeping terminals.

172. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal.

173. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the pending message list comprises information from which the roaming terminal determines whether a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal.

174. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising determining from a received pending message list whether a message for the roaming terminal is awaiting delivery.

175. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising in response to a received pending message list indicating that a message awaits delivery to the roaming terminal, directing the transceiver to transmit a message requesting delivery of one or more pending

messages to the roaming terminal.

176. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored at a node of the communication system and awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

177. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored in a base station of the communication system and awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

178. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising operating the roaming terminal in an awake state if a predetermined number of expected signals from the communication system are not received.

179. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising determining a number of the selected time intervals in which to deactivate the transceiver.

180. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the pending message list comprises information of mail messages awaiting delivery to the roaming terminal.

181. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising causing circuitry of the roaming terminal to enter a sleep mode for at least a portion of an expected delay to receive a message in response to a message sent from the roaming terminal.

182. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising activating and deactivating particular circuitry of the roaming terminal in a consistent cycle.

183. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising operating circuitry of the roaming terminal in an awake state for a first period of time if no message is received and for a second period of time, longer than the first period of time, if a message is received.

184. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising operating circuitry of the roaming terminal in an awake state in response to a user input and continuing operating

circuitry of the roaming terminal in the awake state for a fixed time period following the user input.

185. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising operating circuitry of the roaming terminal in an awake state for at least an entire duration of a communication session with the communication system.

186. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising operating circuitry of the roaming terminal in an awake state for a fixed time period following completion of a communication session with the communication system.

187. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein the respective transceivers of the roaming terminals are spread spectrum transceivers.

188. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein the communication system comprises a plurality of base stations, each of which corresponds to a respective coverage area.

189. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to activate its transceiver to receive a pending message list for up to a maximum listening period, where the maximum listening period is at least a maximum expected time interval between consecutive pending message list transmissions.

190. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to determine whether to consider a received pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on signal strength.

191. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals comprises a hand-held terminal.

192. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals comprises circuitry that operates to perform batch

file transfer.

193. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals comprises circuitry that operates to perform on-line data entry.

194. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission.

195. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on timing information received with a previous pending message list transmission.

196. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on seed information received in a previous transmission.

197. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause its respective transceiver to operate in a sleep mode by, at least in part, causing circuitry to power down the transceiver.

198. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on an expected duration of a communication between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

199. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information communicated between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

200. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information transmitted by another roaming terminal.

201. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein the pending message list comprises information of messages stored for a plurality of sleeping terminals.

202. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that a message awaits delivery to at least one of the roaming terminals.

203. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein the pending message list comprises information from which at least one of the roaming terminals determines whether a message awaits delivery to the at least one of the roaming terminals.

204. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to analyze a received pending message list to determine whether a message awaits delivery to the at least one of the roaming terminals.

205. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein in response to a received pending message list indicating that a message awaits delivery to at least one of the roaming terminals, the at least one of the roaming terminals operates to direct its respective transceiver to transmit a message requesting delivery of one or more pending messages to the at least one of the roaming terminals.

206. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored at a node of the communication system and awaiting delivery to at least one of the roaming terminals.

207. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38,

wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored in a base station of the communication system and awaiting delivery to at least one of the roaming terminals.

208. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to maintain operation of the at least one of the roaming terminals in an awake state if a predetermined number of expected signals from the communication system are not received.

209. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to determine a number of the selected time intervals in which to operate its respective transceiver in a sleep mode.

210. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein the pending message list comprises information of mail messages awaiting delivery to at least one of the roaming terminals.

211. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals to enter a sleep mode for at least a portion of an expected delay to receive a message in response to a message sent from the at least one of the roaming terminals.

212. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to activate and deactivate particular circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals in a consistent cycle.

213. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals to operate in an awake state for a first period of time if no message is received and for a second period of time, longer than the first period of time, if a message is received.

214. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause circuitry of the at least one of the

roaming terminals to operate in an awake state in response to a user input and to continue to operate in the awake state for a fixed time period following the user input.

215. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals to operate in an awake state for at least an entire duration of a communication session with the communication system.

216. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 38, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals to operate in an awake state for a fixed time period following completion of a communication session with the communication system.

217. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein the respective transceivers of the roaming terminals are spread spectrum transceivers.

218. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein the communication system comprises a plurality of base stations, each of which corresponds to a respective coverage area.

219. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to activate its transceiver to receive a pending message list for up to a maximum listening period, where the maximum listening period is at least a maximum expected time interval between consecutive pending message list transmissions.

220. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to determine whether to consider a received pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on signal strength.

221. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals comprises a hand-held terminal.

222. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals comprises circuitry that operates to perform batch file transfer.

223. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals comprises circuitry that operates to perform on-line data entry.

224. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission.

225. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on timing information received with a previous pending message list transmission.

226. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to calculate an expected time for a pending message list transmission based, at least in part, on seed information received in a previous transmission.

227. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause its respective transceiver to operate in a sleep mode by, at least in part, causing circuitry to power down the transceiver.

228. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on an expected duration of a communication between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

229. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to determine a sleep time period based, at

least in part, on message length information communicated between another roaming terminal and a base station of the communication system.

230. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to determine a sleep time period based, at least in part, on message length information transmitted by another roaming terminal.

231. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein the pending message list comprises information of messages stored for a plurality of sleeping terminals.

232. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that a message awaits delivery to at least one of the roaming terminals.

233. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein the pending message list comprises information from which at least one of the roaming terminals determines whether a message awaits delivery to the at least one of the roaming terminals.

234. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to analyze a received pending message list to determine whether a message awaits delivery to the at least one of the roaming terminals.

235. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein in response to a received pending message list indicating that a message awaits delivery to at least one of the roaming terminals, the at least one of the roaming terminals operates to direct its respective transceiver to transmit a message requesting delivery of one or more pending messages to the at least one of the roaming terminals.

236. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored at a node of the communication system and awaiting delivery to at least one of the

roaming terminals.

237. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein the pending message list comprises information indicating that one or more messages are stored in a base station of the communication system and awaiting delivery to at least one of the roaming terminals.

238. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to maintain operation of the at least one of the roaming terminals in an awake state if a predetermined number of expected signals from the communication system are not received.

239. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to determine a number of the selected time intervals in which to operate its respective transceiver in a sleep mode.

240. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein the pending message list comprises information of mail messages awaiting delivery to at least one of the roaming terminals.

241. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals to enter a sleep mode for at least a portion of an expected delay to receive a message in response to a message sent from the at least one of the roaming terminals.

242. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to activate and deactivate particular circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals in a consistent cycle.

243. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals to operate in an awake state for a first period of time if no message is received and for a second period of time, longer than the first period of time, if a message is received.

244. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals to operate in an awake state in response to a user input and to continue to operate in the awake state for a fixed time period following the user input.

245. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals to operate in an awake state for at least an entire duration of a communication session with the communication system.

246. (Previously presented) The radio frequency data communication system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the roaming terminals operates to cause circuitry of the at least one of the roaming terminals to operate in an awake state for a fixed time period following completion of a communication session with the communication system.